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Appl. No. 08/811,925
Amendment dated July 27, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 27, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1. (currently amended) A portable ice rink comprising sheet means, a plurality of frame members ~~and of first and second connector means, said first connector means being adapted to connect be connected~~ said frame members successively in an end-to-end relationship such as to form a closed frame means for said rink, said sheet means being adapted to be laid across said frame means and to be connected thereto by way of ~~said second connector means~~ secondary connectors, said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors being provided substantially continuously along said frame means, whereby water deposited onto said sheet means inwardly of said frame means and then having frozen thereon forms an ice sheet, wherein said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors and said ice sheet completely cover said sheet means at upper and side portions of said frame means, wherein said frame members comprise rigid elongated tubular members and wherein said second connectors comprise elongated flexible covering members spreadable for positioning over said sheet means and said tubular members with said sheet means being imprisoned between said tubular members and said covering members.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (currently amended) A portable ice rink as defined in Claim 21, wherein said tubular members and said ~~elip means~~ covering members are each made of plastics material.

Claim 4. (currently amended) A portable ice rink as defined in Claim 1, wherein peripheral protective ~~band means~~ bands are provided for positioning between said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors and said sheet means for at least one of protecting said sheet means from said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors and allowing said sheet means to be slidably displaced relative to said frame means even when connected thereto by said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors.

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Claim 5. (currently amended) A portable ice rink as defined in Claim 4, wherein said sheet means is dimensioned such to define, when installed to said frame means, a peripheral take-up strip outwardly of said frame means thereby providing material for allowing said sheet means to be displaced inwardly relative to said frame means while retaining said sheet means assembled to said frame means by way of said ~~second connector means~~ secondary connectors.

Claim 6. (currently amended) A portable ice rink as defined in Claim 21, wherein said ~~first primary connectors means are provided for connecting the frame members together, said primary connectors~~ comprise resilient connecting rods insertable at ends thereof in facing open ends of adjacent tubular members for interconnecting said tubular members while allowing for relative displacement therebetween upon a need for said frame means to expand.

Claim 7. (currently amended) A portable ice rink as defined in Claim 6, wherein said connecting rods are adapted to be bent for forming corners of said frame means.

Claim 8. (cancelled)

Claim 9. (cancelled)

Claim 10. (cancelled)

Claim 11. (cancelled)

Claim 12. (new) A portable ice rink comprising sheet means, a plurality of frame members adapted to be connected in an end-to-end relationship such as to form a closed frame for said rink, said sheet means being adapted to be laid across said frame and to be connected thereto by way of secondary connectors, said secondary connectors being provided substantially continuously along said frame, whereby water deposited onto said sheet means inwardly of said frame and then having frozen thereon forms an ice sheet, wherein said secondary connectors and said ice sheet completely cover said sheet means at upper and side portions of said frame, wherein peripheral protective bands are provided for positioning between said secondary connectors and said sheet means for at least one of protecting said sheet means from said secondary connectors and allowing said sheet means to be slidably displaced relative to said frame even when connected thereto by said secondary connectors.